



## ATLANTA CITY COUNCIL

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### Public Apology Statement RE: Ethics Complaint

I apologize to the citizens of Atlanta whose confidence in me may have been shaken by this episode, and sincerely hope they will allow me to work to regain their trust and confidence. I commit to never again place my office, my public service, or myself in question. I do acknowledge that I am responsible for the appearance of a conflict of interest and violations of the code of ethics. Accordingly, I accept full responsibility for my actions and for the operations of my office. Accountability is the first imperative. I have campaigned on the platform of accountability throughout my political career and to that end, submit to you that all responsibility rest with me.

I recognize that transparency in government is one of the most important tenets of public service. The year 2014 marked the 20th anniversary of my first election to public office. I have attempted to perform my duties earnestly and honestly over the course of my service. I believe that it is incumbent upon elected officials—myself included—to ensure that our actions are beyond reproach and able to favorably withstand public scrutiny. It is in this vein that I acknowledge that actions which are the subject of this inquiry, are justifiably questionable.

Maintaining the public's trust in practice and appearance is my primary goal. I regard my service to the public with utmost seriousness as I realize that it is a privilege to serve the citizens of Atlanta. I remain accountable for the management of my office and its funds knowing full well how precious each hard-earned tax dollar is to our citizens.

Since beginning my public service vocation, I have never faced such an inquiry until now. For those whose confidence in me may have been shaken by this episode, I sincerely hope they will allow me to work to regain their trust and confidence. I commit to the citizens of Atlanta to never again place my office, my public service, or myself in question.

Today, I reaffirm my pledge to the Citizens of Atlanta to adhere to the highest standard of public service, and will consistently work in a manner that best demonstrates my commitment.

Yours in service,

  
Michael J. Bond